

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 EUR-12 AID-05 OES-07  
DLOS-09 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /129 W  
-----047075 091248Z /45

R 090830Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
USMISSION USUN  
CINCPAC  
SECSTATE WASHDC 7918

C O N F I D E N T I A L 1797

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, KS, KM, MR  
SUBJECT: REPUBLIC OF KOREA DELEGATION VISITS NOUAKCHOTT

REF: (A) NOUAKCHOTT 1392, (B) SEOUL 5386(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: REPUBLIC OF KOREA DELEGATION CONSISTING OF SENIOR FISHERY  
ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES VISITED  
NOUAKCHOTT LAST TWO WEEKS JULY. ROK FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS  
PLEASED WITH FAVORABLE RECEPTION AND ANTICIPATETHAT ROK-MAURITANIAN  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS WILL GRADUALLY GROW CLOSER. FISHERY  
REPRESENTATIVESREMAIN IN NOUAKCHOTT AWAITING APPROVAL REQUESTED  
FISHING LICENSES AND DEVELOPING DETAILS OF JOINT FISH PROCESSING  
VENTURE. END SUMMARY.

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1. ROK DELEGATION WHICH INCLUDED HAM TAE-HYOK, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
BUREAU DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HYUN HI-KANG, WEST  
AFRICAN DIVISION CHIEF, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PAK WON  
BIN, PREISDENT, KOREAN DEEP SEA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, AND  
KIM YUN GUN, PRESIDENT, ATLANTIC INDUSTRY COMPANY LTD.,  
VISITED NOUAKCHOTT LAST TWO WEEKS IN JULY, DELEGATION ARRIVED  
WITH DUAL PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING EVOLUTION OF OFFICIAL ROK-GIRM

RELATIONSHIP AS WELL AS CONCLUDING COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS IN FISHING AREA.

2. DELEGATION MET WITH A WIDE RANGE OF MAURITANIAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND MINES, AND GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK. ATLANTIC INDUSTRY HAS FORMALLY SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS TO GIRM FOR FISHING LICENSES. COMPANY IS NEGOTIATING JOINT VENTURE WITH MAURITANIAN PARTNER SECIM (SOCIETE D'ETUDES DE CONCEPTION D'INVESTISSEMENTS POUR LA MAURITANIA). KIM YUN GUN IS PRESENTLY IN NOUAKCHOTT AWAITING FORMAL APPROVAL OF FISHING LICENSES AND WORKING OUT DETAILS OF JOINT VENTURE WHICH INCLUDES TWO MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT BY KOREANS IN FISH PROCESSING AND SELLING OPERATION TO BE LOCATED IN NOUADHIBOU. KIM ANTICIPATES ESTABLISHING RESIDENCE IN NOUADHIBOU. HYUN HI-KANG MENTIONED THAT MAURITANIAN OFFICIALS HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SELLING MAURITANIAN IRON ORE TO KOREAN INDUSTRIAL FIRM DAE WOO.

3. IN BRIEFING DCM ON RESULTS OF VISIT, HYUN DESCRIBED DELEGATION MEETING WITH MOHMAED OULD SIDI ALY, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN GIRM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS MOST KORCIDAL AND PRODUCTIVE. ALY INDICATED THAT ROK-GIRM RELATIONSHIP WOULD CONTINUE TO EVOLVE, BUT IN GRADUAL INCREMENTS (SEE REF A). HE TOLD DELEGATION THAT IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE GIRM WOULD CONTINUE TO FOLLOW NEUTRAL POLICY AS IT HAD AT AUGUST 1976 COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE -- THAT IS, ABSTAIN  
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ON ANY PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTIONS. HYUN NOTED THAT DELEGATION DID NOT DISCUSS SPECIFIC TYPE OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ROK REPRESENTATION IN MAURITANIA (AT EMBASSY OR CONSULAR LEVEL).

4. DURING INITIAL MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM AND IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS, DELEGATION MEMBERS EVIDENCED SOLID UNDERSTANDING OF NEED FOR GRADUALIST APPROACH. THOROUGH BRIEFING BY EMBASSY SEOUL OFFICERS OBVIOUSLY HAD DESIRED IMPACT. HYUN IN PARTICULAR HAS A PERCEPTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF MAURITANIAN POLITICAL LIMITE AND RECOGNIZES CLEAR DISTINCTION OF MAURITANIA POLITICAL MILIEU FROM THAT OF ITS TWO LARGER NEIGHBORS, SENEGAL AND MOROCCO. HYUN NOTED THAT IF HE REMAINS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR NEXT 12 MONTHS, HE LOOKS FORWARD TO RETURN VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHING ROK REPRESENTATION IN MAURITANIA.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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